

Mackinac Bridge August Traffic Report

October 24, 2002

Robert J. Sweeney, Executive Secretary of the Mackinac Bridge Authority, reported today that 692,396 vehicles crossed the Mackinac Bridge during the month of August. This represents a 1.9 percent increase when compared to the 679,362 crossings during August 2001. Fare revenue for the month was up 1.8 percent compared to last year, going from \$1,360,515 to \$1,384,356. Commercial traffic for the month of August was down 1.9 percent. Truck crossings were down 1.3 percent and bus crossings were down 12.9 percent.

Traffic for the first eight months of 2002 is running 0.9 percent ahead of last year's pace; 3,239,412 vehicles compared to 3,209,544 in 2001. Fare revenue in 2002 totals \$7,135,807 compared to \$7,105,873 last year, an increase of 0.4 percent. Commercial traffic for the first eight months of 2002 is down 2.6 percent over the same period of last year.

Mr. Sweeney reported that construction activity continues at the Mackinac Bridge. This year's maintenance and construction programs include total paint removal and repainting of the south side span, cable inspection, center mall replacement, and installation of a traffic monitoring system. Mr. Sweeney asks that travelers drive with extreme caution during the construction season, slow down, be aware of our construction workers, and "Give 'em a Brake".